meeting held in the Y. M. C. A. buildings, Kunnamkulam, a few weeks ago, and that a resolution has been unanimously passed to request the Government to remove all the liquor shops from within Kunnamkulam Town limits, and whether the Government intends to give effect to that resolution, and if not, to give the reason?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—Yes. The question is one which comes within the principle of local option, and the feasibility of accepting it in Cochin will be referred to the Excise Committee for consideration and report.

442. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform whether any reply has been given by the Government to the representations and petitions submitted by the people of Kunnamkulam for removing all liquor shops from within their Town and to give the reason, if no reply has been sent?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—No reply was given, as it was considered not necessary in view of the answer to question No. 62.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—When a petition is submitted, is it not the policy of the Government to reply?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—It depends upon circumstances. Generally it is done.

President.—Is it a fact?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—It is not the practice here but other Governments do it.

President.—Is there any objection in giving a reply to the petitioner that his petition has been lodged or recorded so that he may seek other methods of redress, if his petition is rejected.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—There is no objection for doing that.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The Government will do so in future, I hope.

Rules now in vogue restricting the sale of liquor.

443. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform the rules now in vogue restricting the sale of liquor to definite hours, to particular persons, etc., and the steps taken by the Government for strictly enforcing these rules?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—The rules are contained in clause 25 and 30 of the Diwan's Notification, dated 27th Kumbham 1100, a copy of which is placed on the Council

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